



# Environmental Compliance Alert

## Wastewater Treatment Plants

Alert #3 (5/6/10) - DMR Compliance During Flooding Events



The Kentucky Division of Compliance Assistance is issuing this alert to inform the wastewater treatment plants of potential environmental responsibilities relating to proper Discharge Monitoring Reporting (DMR) during flood events. This alert is focused on compliance with Kentucky Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (KPDES) requirements.

### Alert Details

#### Should I Sample If My Plant Is Flooded?

No, if your plant is flooded then any sample would not be representative.

#### How to Properly Report

The KPDES program requires monitoring and data collection that is to be submitted on a Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR). If conditions prevent monitoring, it is acceptable to utilize a No Data Indicator Code (NODI) to be recorded in the no discharge box in the upper righthand corner of the DMR.

#### What Code Do I Use?

The Division of Water Surface Water Permit Branch suggests systems follow these guidelines:

1. Place a "K" in the box, and
2. In the comments field, write in "Flood Disaster."

**The NODI Code should only be used if a representative sample is not obtainable due to flooding conditions, i.e. plant flooded out, discharge pipe submerged, etc. If the system is continuing to process and discharge, even increased flows, the facility should continue to sample and report.**

#### What's an Environmental Compliance Alert?

The Environmental Compliance Alert is published by the Kentucky Division of Compliance Assistance. Its purpose is to proactively raise awareness about compliance issues affecting a specific sector. The alert is intended to stimulate action, encourage facilities to evaluate their environmental practices, and facilitate the identification and correction of compliance problems.

#### Who Should Read This Alert?

- ⇒ Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators
- ⇒ Laboratory Personnel

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